

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1071
By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Julia "Julie" Clayton Alexander Grinalds.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Julia "Julie" Clayton Alexander Grinalds; and

WHEREAS, an exemplary attorney, public servant, and consummate professional, Julie Alexander Grinalds worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Julie Clayton Alexander Grinalds was born November 3, 1947, in Nashville, Tennessee, to Mary Francis Malone Rains; her father was William Sterling "Bud" Barrett, and her adoptive parents were Mary Elizabeth "Pete" Polk Alexander and Dave Almon Alexander; and

WHEREAS, Julie Alexander Grinalds received her Bachelor of Science degree from Middle Tennessee State University in 1969, and a Master of Science in Social Work from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1978; she graduated with a Juris Doctorate from the Nashville School of Law in 1982, graduating first in her class and inducted into the Cooper's Inn honorary organization for the law school; and

WHEREAS, 1982 was a banner year for Ms. Grinalds, as she passed the bar exam, changed occupations, moved to West Tennessee, and gave birth to her son, Jeff; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Grinalds practiced law as an Assistant Attorney General for Gibson, Crockett, Haywood and Henry Counties in the child support division before entering private practice with a special emphasis in child support enforcement and adoptions; in 2002, she again worked for the State of Tennessee as the Assistant General Counsel for the Department of Children's Services, and she became the state director for the child support enforcement program within the Tennessee Department of Human Services; thereafter, she was elected national President of the National Child Support Enforcement Association, and in this position,

Julie Alexander Grinalds traveled and spoke to judicial groups throughout the United States, and she also served on its Board in various capacities; and

WHEREAS, an active and committed member of numerous civic and community organizations, Ms. Grinalds was a member and past President of both the Jackson-Madison County Bar Association and the Lawyers' Association for Women, Anne Schneider Chapter; she was a charter member of the Tennessee Lawyer's Association for Women, and a past member of the Tennessee Bar Association, having served as President of the Family Law Section; she was a member of Jackson Business & Professional Women, and she served as bake shop coordinator for the University School of Jackson's Holiday Mart for five years, and in 1992, Julie Alexander Grinalds received the Woman of Distinction award from the Reelfoot Girl Scout Council; and

WHEREAS, as a lawyer, Julie Alexander Grinalds was a zealous advocate for children and women in Tennessee, and she practiced law with great humanity, known for her acute legal mind and precise legal work; and

WHEREAS, Julie enjoyed reading and cooking, and was known as a gracious hostess; friends and colleagues describe her as honest, professional, hard-working, and a good friend; all who were fortunate to have known Julie will miss her; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Grinalds was an active and devout member of Grace United Methodist Church, which she served faithfully; she was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Julie Clayton Alexander Grinalds enjoyed the loving companionship of her devoted husband, Richard Leigh Grinalds, and she was the proud mother of their son, Jefferson Leigh Grinalds, and her husband's children, whom she considered as her own, Elizabeth "Bess" Grinalds Arrington and her husband James Arrington, and Richard Southy Grinalds and his wife Patricia Grinalds; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Grinalds is also survived by her grandchildren, James Adams Arrington, Jr., Emily Katherine Arrington, Caroline Arrington, Richard Hayes Arrington, and Brendan Southy Grinalds; two special friends who will miss her are Jeff's de facto grandparents, Betty and Jim Gass; she leaves five siblings, Mary Gayle Rains, Constance Malone Rains Jacoway (married to Steven Mark Jacoway), Tayloe Barrett Jackson and Terri Pulley, and William

Hudson Alexander, Jr., (married to Cindy Abernathy Alexander); also mourning her loss are an uncle, Sam Malone, and an aunt, Mrs. Bob "Mickie" Lydard; and

WHEREAS, Julie Alexander Grinalds was preceded in death by both sets of parents, but she is survived by her step-mother, Fannie Smith Barrett; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Grinalds leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional attorney, children's advocate, public servant, and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Julia "Julie" Clayton Alexander Grinalds, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Julie Alexander Grinalds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.